



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

February 16, 2011

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

This memorandum contains a pursuit of County position on legislation to continue an existing pilot program which authorizes filing officers in specified counties, including Los Angeles County, to permit the electronic filing of Statements of Economic Interest (Form 700); a pursuit of County position on the Senate omnibus bill which contains a County-sponsored proposal to address change orders on road contracts; and the status of County-sponsored legislation which would change the job qualifications for applicants to the position of public defender.

Pursuit of County Position on Legislation

AB 182 (Davis), as introduced on January 24, 2011, would amend the Political Reform Act of 1974 to continue an existing pilot program authorizing filing officers for Statements of Economic Interest (Form 700) in the counties of Los Angeles, Merced, Orange, Santa Clara, Stanislaus and Ventura to permit the electronic filing (e-filing) of the form until December 31, 2012. Additionally, this bill would permit the acceptance of electronic filings of Form 700 by all government agencies, starting on January 1, 2013.

According to the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors, extension of the pilot program would allow for uninterrupted e-filing for as many as 3,000 County and other local agency officials who file Form 700 with the Executive Office. Continuing to offer e-filing would allow the Executive Office to achieve efficiencies amounting to more than \$40,000 in terms of labor and materials in administering this portion of the Political Reform Act.

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In addition, the bill would allow ongoing authority to agencies to implement e-filing on a permanent basis, which would preserve the investment the Executive Office has made in development of the e-file system. The Executive Officer also indicates that continuing and expanding the use of e-filing will make filing easier and more accurate, thus enhancing overall compliance with the economic disclosure requirements of the Political Reform Act.

This Office and the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors support AB 182. Therefore, consistent with existing Board policy to support legislation to allow any filing officer to accept electronic filing of the Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) in lieu of a paper form, the **Sacramento advocates will support AB 182.**

AB 182 is sponsored by the California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials. There is no registered opposition on file. This measure is currently in the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee awaiting a hearing.

SB 194 (Senate Governance and Finance Committee), as introduced on February 8, 2011, is an omnibus bill that would make a number of minor, non-controversial changes to laws affecting the powers and duties of local agencies which have been proposed by local officials. Each item in the omnibus bill is extensively vetted and, if there is an objection, the item is removed from the legislation.

SB 194 contains a County-sponsored proposal related to change orders on county road contracts, as reported in the November 2, 2010 Sacramento Update. Specifically, this County-sponsored item would increase the upper limit amount a board of supervisors may delegate to a county road commissioner or other county officer to order changes or additions in the work being performed under county road contracts from \$150,000 to \$210,000. This proposal also clarifies that these change orders may include additions to the work. The rest of the provisions contained in SB 194 do not directly affect County operations. Because this measure contains a County-sponsored item, **the Sacramento advocates will support SB 194.**

Support and opposition to SB 194 is currently unknown. This measure is currently at the Senate Desk awaiting referral to a policy committee.

Status of County-Sponsored Legislation

County-sponsored AB 259 (Smyth), as introduced on February 7, 2011, would change the required job qualifications for applicants to the position of public defender. Existing law restricts the position of public defender to a person who has been a practicing attorney for at least the year preceding the date of his election or

Each Supervisor
February 16, 2011
Page 3

appointment. AB 259 would amend Government Code Section 27701 to allow a person to be eligible to the position of public defender if he or she is a sitting or retired judge, and as a judge meets specified qualifications, or if he/she was a judicial commissioner, magistrate, referee, or elected public official and meets specified qualifications.

Support and opposition to AB 259 is currently unknown. This measure is currently at the Assembly Desk awaiting referral to a policy committee.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA:MR
RM:GA:EW:sb

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
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